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OLD-ENGLISH PHONOLOGY

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BOSTON U. S. A.

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1893

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ALPHABETICALLY TO VINDI
THE ALPHABETICALLY TO VINDI

NOTE.

THE following pages are the first of my forthcoming *Old-English Grammar and Reader*. They are now published primarily for the use of the members of my classes.

It is expected that the complete book will be issued in the summer of 1893; at which time due acknowledgments will be made to books and friends.

GEORGE HEMPL.

ANN ARBOR,
Oct., 1892.

SIGNS AND ABBREVIATIONS.



$>$ = "become(s)," "became," or "(is changed) into."

$<$ = "(derived) from," "a later form of."

* marks a form not found in Mss. but inferred philologically.

/ is a sign of gradation, § 47.

‡ is a sign of the working of Verner's Law, § 57.

+ = "plus," or "together with following."

[= "after," or "preceded by," for ex., $w[i\omega > u$ = "*io* after *w* becomes *u*," or "under the influence of a preceding *w*, an *io* becomes *u*."

] = "before," or "followed by," for ex., $e]^{nas.} > i$ = "*e* before a nasal, becomes *i*."

{ = "breaks," or "broken," § 41. for ex., $i\bar{]} > i\omega$ = "*i* breaks into *io*," or "breaking changes *i* to *io*," and $ea < a\bar{]} =$ "the *ea* that arises by the breaking of *a*."

)ⁱ = "*i*-mutation," § 43;)^u = "*u*-mutation," § 44. For ex., $\bar{o})^i > \bar{e}$ = "the *i*-mutation of $\bar{o}$ is $\bar{e}$," or " $\bar{o}$ mutated by *i* becomes $\bar{e}$."

$\bar{a}$, $\bar{e}$, &c., § 15 N².

$\bar{i}$, $\bar{u}$, &c. = "unsyllabic *i*, *u*, &c."

$\dot{e}$, $\dot{y}$, $\dot{h}$, &c., § 85.

η = the back nasal in 'sing,' § 53.

ϵ , $\dot{i}$, § 40 N³.

f = *sh* in 'she.'

ϵ , ϵ , ft. nt. p. 22, § 38.

$\mathcal{J}$ = *s* in 'pleasure.'

dh = the voiceless fricatives in German *adh* (back) and *idh* (front), § 54.

ii = a sound like *i* in 'machine' or 'pin,' but made with the lips nearly closed, or "rounded."

eWS. = early West Saxon, § 7.

N.E. = New England.

Ge = Germanic, § 6.

OE. = Old English, §§ 8, 9.

lWS. = late West Saxon, § 7.

OHG. = Old High German, § 6.

ME. = Middle English, § 9.

Sc. = Scandinavian, § 6.

M. Ger. = Midland German.

S. Ger. = South German.

MⁿE. = Modern English, § 9.

WG. = West Germanic, § 6.

N = Note.

WS. = West Saxon, § 7.

INTRODUCTION.

THE LAND AND THE PEOPLE.*

1. ENGLAND, once a peninsula like Denmark, had been separated from the mainland long before the first tribes of Indo-European stock came and conquered the people they found there. These new-comers were **Celts**, and had become thoroughly established on the island when Cæsar, having conquered the Celts of Gaul, invaded Britain with his Roman legions, 55 and again 54 B.C. The **Roman conquest**, however, did not begin until a century later, A.D. 43. In time forts arose in various parts; two immense walls were built to shut out the Picts of the north; and the island was traversed by great military roads, along which troops might quickly be sent to the west to hold the less civilized natives in restraint, to the north against the Scots and the Picts, or to the south-east to oppose the marauding Saxons that devastated that coast. But it is a mistake to suppose that Britain was only a military colony. Archæological and philological evidence is constantly accumulating to the effect that during the four hundred years of Roman rule Roman civilization not only pervaded the towns, but even spread to the country parts; in time **Christianity** gained a footing on the island. But large tracts were still covered by dense forests, and many rivers were not easily

* The learner is advised to read the first chapters of some good English history: Gardiner's *Student's History*; Green's *History*; Freeman's *Old English History* or vol. i. of his *Norman Conquest*.

approached for the great marshes that lined them. Little is recorded of the history of the Roman Province of Britain; after 410 Rome hardly claimed it, and no longer pretended to do for it.

2. The Saxon pirates were but the forerunners of a great **German invasion**, which began about 450 and in time overran the larger part of the island. The invaders were, for the most part, **Angles, Saxons, and Jutes** (OE. *Ēng-le*, *Se'axe* or *-an*, *I'ote*). Kent and the country about Southampton fell into the hands of the Jutes, the rest of the South was settled by Saxons, while the north-east became the home of the Angles. As it was among the *Ēng-le* of Northumberland that literary culture first flourished (§ 12) and an *Ēnglisc* dialect was the first to be used for vernacular literature, **Ēnglisc** came eventually to be a general name for all forms of the vernacular as opposed to Latin (which the English called *Læden*), etc.; and when the West Saxon of Ælfred became in its turn the literary or classical form of speech (§ 7), it too was called *Ēnglisc*, or English.* Later the term **Angelcyn** (= Angle kin, or English people) came to be applied to Saxons as well as Angles, and the fact that the Angles occupied the larger part of the country may have had something to do with this. According to ancient usage, the words *Ēngle* and *Angelecyn* were also used where we should expect a name for the country; but in time **Ēnglaland** (ME. *England*), that is, "land of the Engle," came into use. The natives, on their part, called all the new-comers by the name of those that first devastated their coast,—the Saxons. Many of these natives (the English called them **Welsh**, that is, "strangers") were either slain or driven to the west and the north, but not a few became the slaves of the conquerors, and their young women the mothers of a large part of the next generation. Thus, from the start, Celtic blood mingled with Teutonic.

* Murray in *Encyclopædia Britannica*.

3. The new-comers cared little for Roman civilization and Christianity, but brought with them the institutions, customs, and religion of their forefathers. The bulk of the free population consisted of **Ċeorls** (pronounce *kē'orls* or *chē'orls*), who in time sank to the position of serfs, and their betters, the **Eorls** (*ē'orls*) and **Æthelings** (*ǣdh'elings*). The chiefs were called **Ealdormen** (*ǣldormen'*, = elders or magistrates) or **Her'etog'as** (= leaders of the army). Their retinue of fighting-men, called **Ĝesīths** (*yě-seeths'*, = companions) and later **Theġns** (*thanes*, or attendants), was for the most part made up of Eorls. By those of lower rank an Ealdorman or a king was in deference called **Hlāford** (*hlah'ford*, MⁿE. *lord*). The general levy of the villagers for the defence of their homes was termed the **Fierd** (*fī'erd*). When various tribes united, as for a military expedition or for defence against a common foe, they chose a leader of the combined forces, whom they called **Cyning** (*kūning*, = king); in time the kingship acquired more permanence and power, and supplanted or subordinated the rule of the Ealdormen. When a king was to be elected, the most eligible member of the royal family was chosen by the **Wit'enagemōt'** (*g = y*), an assembly or Great Council that to a certain extent controlled the action of the king. At times one king got a sort of supremacy over other kings and was called **Bretwealda** (*brēt'wǣōlda*, = wielder of Britain), or over-lord.

4. The history of England during the Old-English period (to about the twelfth century) is too full to be more than hinted at here. For a time Æth'elberht, king of Kent, was over-lord over the other kings south of the Humber; he married a Christian woman, the daughter of the king of the Franks, and permitted the establishment of **Christianity** among his people. Later, E'adwine, king of Northumberland and over-lord of all England except Kent, did the same. Gradually Christianity spread throughout the English domains, and there was a united English church before a united

England. There were three chief kingdoms: **Northumberland** (OE. *Norð-hymbre*, cf. Engle. § 2, end, = those dwelling north of the Humber), **Mercia** (*mersha*, OE. *M'erce* = the inhabitants of the *Meare* or borderland), and **Wessex** (OE. *West Seaxe*, or the West Saxons); the over-lordship shifting to and fro.

5. About three hundred years (A.D. 787) after the first Teutonic hordes gained a footing on the island, others, called "**Danes**" by the English, but coming from the Scandinavian as well as from the Danish peninsula, began to make inroads upon the north-east coast. In time they founded settlements, and pressed forward until they were masters of most of the English territory north of the Thames. **Wessex** (with its dependencies, Sussex and Kent) alone held out against them. The West-Saxon resistance was maintained by a line of valiant kings, the greatest of whom was **Ælfred** (reigned 871-901), equally noted as warrior, statesman, and scholar. He consolidated his kingdom, reorganized the Fierd (§ 3), built a navy, had the laws revised, established schools, encouraged native scholars and attracted foreign ones, and, though his own knowledge of Latin was defective, translated with the aid of others various Latin books that he thought would be of use to his people (§ 13). Under his son and grandsons all England south of the Humber gradually became subject to the West-Saxon king; and the Scandinavian element was pretty well absorbed by the English. But some two hundred years after the first "Danes" had come to England, new swarms crossed over (984) from Norway and Denmark and conquered the island, which was now for some time ruled by **Danish kings**. In the next century England was again conquered (1066) by men of Teutonic blood, — the **Normans** (or Northmen), who had been settled now more than a hundred years in France, where they had adopted the French language and the Christian religion.

LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE.*

6. The TEUTONIC or GERMANIC languages are: (1) **Gothic**, (2) **Scandinavian** (including Norwegian and Icelandic, Swedish and Danish), (3) **West Germanic**. The WG. languages are (1) *Low German* (the languages native to the northern lowlands: Plattdeutsch, Dutch, Frisian, English), (2) *High German* (the speech of the middle and southern highlands, from which has developed the literary language now spoken in all parts of the country). The **English language** is thus a peculiarly developed Low-German dialect, nearest akin to Frisian, and more like Dutch and Plattdeutsch than like High German.†

7. We have seen (§ 2) that there were *various* LG. tribes that settled in Britain; and as each tribe had come to speak somewhat differently from the others, we have to deal with various OLD ENGLISH DIALECTS, four of which are important: **Kentish**, **West-Saxon**, **Mercian**, and **Northumbrian**. The last two are forms of Anglian speech, WS. was the most prominent Saxon dialect, and Kentish represents the speech of the Jutes. Of these, **West Saxon** has the greatest importance; for under the political supremacy of Wessex (§ 5) and the enlightened policy of Ælfred, it became the literary and official language, and in it are written most of the OE. literary monuments that have been preserved to our day (§ 13). It is therefore best to begin the study of OE. with early West Saxon (eWS.) and

* The learner is advised to read Dr. Murray's article on the English Language in *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 9th edition, or that in Webster's *International Dictionary*; and the opening chapters of a good English literature, for example, Ten Brink's. For lists of texts, editions, etc., cf. the appendix to Cook's translation of Sievers' OE. grammar, or Wülker's *Geschichte der angls. Litteratur*.

† Students of Old English who understand Latin or German will be able to make good use of this knowledge if they familiarize themselves with the general scheme of "Grimm's Law."

to regard this as the standard with which to compare other dialects.

8. We have seen (§ 2) that all the settlers called their language *Engliſc*, or English, after the *Engle*, or Angles. They occasionally called themselves *Angelseaxan*, or **Anglo-Saxons** (which means English Saxons as distinguished from the continental Saxons, whom they called *Ealdseaxan*, or Old Saxons, as we in America speak of "Old England"; later the word was misunderstood as meaning a combination of Angles and Saxons); but they never called their language Anglo-Saxon. This was first done by scholars of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, to whom Old English seemed more a distinct language than an older stage of their own. We are, therefore, justified in joining those who a score of years ago discarded the term Anglo-Saxon as applied to language, and began to call the oldest known form of our speech "**Old English**"* or "First English." The oldest dated Ms. containing OE. words is a charter of 679, but some of the English inscriptions that were made in Runic letters (§ 14) are probably older (Sweet, H.E.S. § 345).

9. The chief periods of English are called **Old**, **Middle**, and **Modern**. The change from one to the other was, of course, gradual: the transition from OE. to ME. was in the twelfth century; that from ME. to M^eE., in the fifteenth. Sweet has well defined OE. as the period of FULL endings (*mōna*, *sunne*, *sunu*, *hringas*); ME. as the period of LEVELLED endings, weak vowels being reduced to a uniform *e* like German final *ze* (*mōne*, *sunne*, *sune*, *ringes*); M^eE. as the period of LOST endings (*moon*, *sun*, *son*, *rings*).

10. But it was not always the same dialect that was the literary language. We have seen that literature first flourished among the Angles (§ 2), where it was brought to an

* "Old English" is still used by some to designate Middle English or early Modern English; so in Webster's and Stormonth's dictionaries.

untimely end by the Danish inroads,* that later WS. became the literary and official language (§ 7), only to be crowded into obscurity when the Normans brought in French (§ 5, end). When English again got the upper hand, it was the dialect of London that became the standard. This was originally a Saxon Dialect, early affected by the neighboring Kentish and Mercian. At all times, but particularly after the city had been depopulated by the great plagues, from various parts of the island people thronged to the capital; as the larger part of the island was Anglian, the dialect of the metropolis gradually assumed a more Anglian, or Mercian (§ 7), character. It was the London dialect in which Chaucer wrote, and from which the modern standard speech is descended.

11. English has been much and often subjected to **external influences**.

a) Even before the emigration from the continent, **Latin** words were learned from the Roman traders that visited the German tribes, from the Germans that served in the armies of the Empire, and in other ways. Thus Lat. *vīnum* > OE. *wīn* MⁿE. *wine*, Ger. *Wein*, similarly with *butter*, *cheese*, etc.; (*riā*) *strāta* > OE. *strēt* MⁿE. *street*, *ᚷtraṣc*, so with *mile*, *pound*, *inch*, etc.; and even the Christian *engel*, *Engel*, and *dēofol* MⁿE. *devil*, *Teufel*. Lat. *lignum*, popular Lat. *bucso*, "writing-tablet of box-wood" (used particularly for documents), was associated by the Germans with G^e *bōco*-, *bōc(j)ōn*- "beech-tree," and > G^e *bōc-s* (OE. OS. *bōc*, OHG. *buoh*) "writing-tablet, charter, book."

b) On the island the conquerors heard both **Latin** and **Celtic**, the former particularly in the towns,† and thus added to their vocabulary (1) many such words as *mount* "mount" < Lat. *montem*, *pihten* "part of a loom" < Lat. *pecten*, *beptēcan* "be-

* Even the literary products of the period would have been lost had they not come down to us in copies made by Saxon scribes.

† Cf. Pogatscher: "Zur Lautlehre der gr., lat. und rom. Lehnworte im AE." especially pp. 1-15.

guile, cheat" < Lat. *pāco* "soothe, pacify"; cf. also the proper names *Chester*, *Wor-cester*, *Lan-caster*, etc., < OE. *ceaster* "fortified town" < Lat. *castra*; and (2) such Celtic words as *cradle*, *mattock*, *rock*, *curse*, and many proper names: for example, those, like *London*, in *don* < Celtic *dūn*, for which the real English word is *tūn* "town." Some of these words the Celts themselves had learned from their Roman conquerors; thus, "ass" < OE. *assa* < Celtic *assan* < Lat. *asīnus*, which had long before passed directly into G^o as *asilus*, OE. *esol*, Ger. *Esel*.

c) With the introduction of Christianity many **Latin** and **Greek** ecclesiastical terms became popular (thus, *prēost* "priest," *nunne* "nun," *scōl* "school," *nōn* "noon," etc.); and, all along, our language has drawn learned and technical terms from Latin and Greek.

d) Much greater was the influence of the large **Scandinavian** element (§ 5), and to this source we owe many of our most familiar words. Thus, even in OE. we find *tacan* "take" < Sc. *taka* (for which the real English word was *niman* *nefmen*), *wrang* "wrong," *lagu* "law," and many others. But most of the Sc. words do not appear till later, in the ME. period, when the Sc. population and speech had been absorbed by the English. Words beginning with the sound *sk* are foreign words, and most of them are of Sc. origin, the native E. word having *sh*- < OE. *sc*-, § 85, 3. Thus *skin*, *skill*, *sky*, *scabby* (the real E. form being *shabby*), *skirt* (for E. *shirt*, both words, like Ger. *Schürz* and our *short*, being from Late Lat. *ex-curtus*).

e) Still greater was the influence of Norman French (§ 5, end) upon English; but all this happened after the OE. period.

12. We have seen (§ 2) that LITERATURE was first cultivated among the **Angles** of the North. This was toward the close of the seventh century, when Christianity had become established in the country (§ 4), and the new faith was cher-

ished with a rare ardor and devotion. We know that, long before, all Teutonic peoples had been fond of music and song, and that poems, celebrating in sturdy rhythm the deeds of chieftain or god and the glory of war, were composed and recited by travelling minstrels in the hall of the chief, where he and his Gesīths sat drinking mead. Such a poem was the great epic **Bēowulf** (*bay'owulf*). But this, like most of the little of heathen literature that escaped the mistaken zeal of early Christianity, bears traces of Christian conception and faith. Directly inspired by the religion of Jew and Christian was the paraphrase of the Bible composed by **Cædmon** (*kād'mon*) under the patronage of Hilda, Abbess of Whitby. In this as well as in the noble Christian poems of **Cynewulf** (*kū'newulf*), but less in the *Judith*, there reappears the old English delight in the clash of arms and in the struggle with the sea. Lyric poetry prospered less than epic; but there have been a few lyrics (*Dēor's Complaint*, *The Complaint of the Woman*, *The Seafarer*, *The Wanderer*) preserved to us, which generally voice the complaint of one who has suffered, or is lonely. Even in Christian days war-songs were composed that had much of the old poetic fire. Two that celebrate events of the tenth century deserve special mention, *The Battle of Maldon* and *The Battle of Brunanburh*.

13. PROSE, too, may be said to have begun in the days of Northumbrian culture, for it was at Jarrow that the learned **Bēda** (modern *Bede*), whose Latin writings were the well of scientific and historical knowledge for generations after, translated a part of the Bible into English. But it was particularly during the days of the WS. renaissance (§§ 5, 7) that English prose (eWS., § 7) was much cultivated. We have seen that **King Ælfred** not only encouraged schools and scholarship, but himself translated various Latin books: Boëthius' *Consolation of Philosophy*, Orosius' *History of the World*, Gregory's *Pastoral Care*, etc. In his day, too, the laws were revised, and the **English or Anglo-Saxon Chronicle** became more than a mere list

of events. Later on there was another revival of English prose (late WS.). This time it is the Homilies of the abbot **Ælfrie** (written about the year 1000) and of Archbishop **Wulfstān** that attract most attention. **Ælfrie** also translated parts of the Bible, and wrote a Latin grammar in English. He, as well as the WS. monk **Byrhtferth**, who taught in a school at Ramsey on the Isle of Man, revived in English the learning of Bēda.

I. PHONOLOGY.



CHAPTER I.

THE ALPHABET.

14. The German settlers brought with them an alphabet that was in use among their kinsmen the Goths and Scandinavians as well as among themselves. This was the **Runic Futhark**, a G^c modification of the Latin alphabet, made about 200 A.D. The modification consisted principally in the use of

	F <i>feoh</i>		H <i>hægel</i>		T <i>tīr</i>		A <i>āc</i>
	U <i>ūr</i>		N <i>nīed</i>		B <i>beorc</i>		O <i>ōs</i>
	Þ <i>þorn</i>		I <i>īs</i>		E <i>eoh</i>		Y <i>ȳr</i>
	{ (A <i>*ans</i>) Æ <i>æsc</i>		(J <i>ǵear</i>)		M <i>mōn</i>		EO <i>eor</i>
	R <i>rād</i>		? <i>ēoh</i>		L <i>lagu</i>		EA <i>ear</i>
	C <i>cēn</i>		P <i>peorð</i>		N=η <i>ing</i>		C <i>cweorð</i>
	G <i>ǵiefu</i>		{ (Z) X ? eolhscēǵ		{ (O <i>ōðil</i>) Æ E <i>ēðel</i>		G <i>gār</i>
	W { <i>wyn</i> <i>wēn</i>		S <i>sigel</i>		D <i>dæǵ</i>		ST <i>stān</i>

Obsolete values etc. are in ().

perpendicular or oblique lines for horizontal ones, and of angles for curves, and was due to the fact that the runes were, probably, first cut on twigs, which were sometimes used for purposes of divination. There were 24 G^e runes, but the changes in OE. utterance caused some changes in the alphabet and the addition of several new characters. As **a** often > æ (§ 25, 1) or **o** (§ 25, 4), and as **o** was mutated (§ 43) to æ later **e**, and **u** to **y**, new runes were made for **a** and **o** by modifying the old **a**-rune, and one for **y** by changing that for **u**. As a distinction arose between **ċ ġ** and **c g** (§§ 55, 56), new runes were made for the latter. When **j** and **ġ** got the same value (§§ 56 b, 64), the rune of the former was dropped.

NOTE.—After the runes had gone out of general use, they were still occasionally employed in inscriptions, rebuses, &c., or for their name words.

15. With the introduction of Christianity (§ 4) and Latin learning, the **Latin Alphabet** was introduced afresh, and that in the form it had assumed in Ireland, for the Scots of Ireland had more or less to do with the spreading of Christianity among the English. In England the alphabet went its own way. For the **u** or **uu** and the **th** at first employed, the runes **ƿ** and **þ** came into use, and for **þ** a crossed **d**, that is **Ð ð**, was often substituted, especially medially and finally.

NOTE 1.—The usual mediæval contractions are not wanting in OE. MSS. Thus ∞ or $\sim$ over a vowel = **m** (but **ðon hwoñ** = **ðonne hwonne**), and over a cons. it = **er**, less often **or**. **þ** (a crossed **p**) is the usual way of writing **pæ**t; **ond**, or **and**, is rare, being written 7 (like $\mathfrak{E}$, a contraction of Lat. *et*); and **l** (a crossed *l* = Lat. *vel*) is often used instead of **oððe**.

NOTE 2.—Over long vowels (especially if the word is very short) a mark like $\surd$ is often found in MSS.; much less frequently is $\sim$ found over short vowels. In this book all long vowels are marked with a macron ($\bar{a}$ &c.), while short ones are left unmarked.

NOTE 3.—In the earlier editions of OE. texts, types were employed that imitated the letters of the MSS. (so **ſ l e s f g p r z** = **S C E d f g r s t**), cf. March's *Anglo-Saxon Grammar*; but now ordinary letters are used, only **þ** or **ð**, and sometimes **g** = **g**, being retained. For **p** a **w** (less often **v**) is used.

NOTE 4.—The punctuation of the MSS. is very imperfect; that in printed texts is supplied by the editors.

CHAPTER II.

SPEECH SOUNDS AND NAMES.

16. 1) The vibration of the vocal chords produces a sound that is technically called **Voice**. The vowels are all “*voiced*”; consonants may be (for ex. *b, l, w*, &c.), or they may be “*voiceless*” (for ex. *p, h*, &c.).

2) In a **Vowel**, the “voice” is the chief thing, and the modification of the sound (by the varying shape of the vocal passage in the various vowels) is a subordinate matter; in a **Consonant**, voice is secondary and may be entirely wanting, while the local sound (as that at the teeth in the case of *s*, at the lips in the case of *p* or *b*) is the main thing. But some cons^s approach very nearly to vowels, for ex. the “semi-vowels” *w* and *j* (= Eng. *y*) are really only unsyllabic (cf. 3) *u* and *i* (= M^E. *oo* and *ee*). So too the “sonorous consonants” (cf. 3) are “vowel-like.” The transition sound produced in passing from one sound to another, is called a **Glide** (§§ 55, 56), but glides are not generally noticed.

3) The more **sonorous** a sound, the more likely it is to become syllabic; thus in a diphthong, the more sonorous vl. is syllabic, the other not. Vl^s are more sonorous than cons^s. Of the latter, *l m n r* are pre-eminently “Sonorous Consonants” (§ 20.1), and hence often syllabic: *nægl nail*, *hræfn racen*.

17. 1) If the tongue is pressed forward during the formation of a vowel, it is called a **Front Vowel** (OE. *æ, e, i*, &c.): if drawn back, a **Back Vowel** (OE. *a, o, u*).

2) A vowel is said to be **Low, Mid, or High**, according as the tongue is lowered a good deal, but moderately, or very little.

3) If the lips are brought close together while a vl. is being sounded, it is called a **Rounded Vowel**. OE. *o* and *œ*

(= Ger. *ö*) were alike in that both were rounded, while *e* was not; but *æ* and *e* were alike in being front vl^s.

4) If a vl. is quickly sounded, it is called “**short**”; if it is prolonged, it is called “**long**.” Cf. § 19, 2.

18.		back front			back front	
		—	i		u	y
Simple Vowels	high	—	i	Rounded Vowels	high	u
	mid	a	e		mid	o
	low	—	æ		low	—

19. 1) A syllable that ends in a vowel is called an **Open Syllable**; one that ends in a cons., a **Closed Syllable**. A single cons. belongs to the following syllable. Open syllables: *pū*, *je*, *slæ-pe*, *beo-re*; closed syllables: *blōd*, *glæd*, *brin-gan*, *lib-ban*.

2) A syllable is **long** if it contains a long vowel or diphthong, or if its vowel is followed by more than one cons.

Thus the first syllable is *long* in: *blōd*, *creft*, *ðū*, *slæpan*, *cēosan*; and *short* in: *pe*, *glæd*, *hwatu*, *beore*. A long syllable must not be confounded with a long vowel (§ 17, 4).

3) A syllable that is not strongly stressed is called a **Weak Syllable**; its vowel is often different from that in the corresponding **Strong Syllable**. Strong M^æE. ‘my’ is sounded *mai*, while weak ‘my’ is *mǣ* or *mī*. Cf. §§ 48–50, 25. 3, 30 N, 47, 93, 95. 2.

20. 1) A cons. produced by stopping and then exploding the breath, is called a **Shut Consonant** or a **Stop** (also a “Mute”), so *p*, *t*, *d*. A cons. produced by allowing the breath to escape through an opening, is called an **Open Consonant**: if the opening is very narrow so that there is much friction of the breath against the walls of the passage, the cons. is called a **Fricative** (or a “Spirant”), thus OE. *s*, *f*, *h*; if the opening is not so narrow as to cause marked friction, the cons. is called a **Sonorous Consonant** (§ 16. 3) or a **Semi-Vowel** (§ 16, 2).

2) Cons^s made (1) with the lips are called **Lip Consonants** (also “Labials”), so *b*, *m*, &c.; (2) by the front of the tongue, **Front Consonants** (namely, Point Cons^s, or “Dentals,” and Top Cons^s, or “Palatals”), so *t*, *s*, *n* and *ç*, *g*, &c.; (3) by the back of the tongue, **Back Consonants** (also “Gutturals”), *c*, *h*, &c., § 85.

CHAPTER III.

THE WS. VOWELS, THEIR PRONUNCIATION AND SOURCE.

I. SIMPLE VOWELS.

21.

- a is sounded as in MⁿE. *artistic*: dagas “days.” [$\langle$ G^c a § 25, 2]
- ā as in *art*: stān “stone.” [$\langle$ G^c ai § 35, 1; WG. ā]^{w &c.} § 30, 2, 3]
- æ “ “ *mankind*: dæg “day.” [$\langle$ G^c a § 25, 1]
- ǣ “ “ *man*¹:]ǣr “there.” [$\langle$ WG. ā § 30, 1; ā]ⁱ § 43, 1; æġ]^{d. n} § 88]
- e.ē “ *men*: stefn, mēn. [e $\langle$ G^c e § 26, 1; ē $\langle$ a]ⁱ § 43, 1, and o]ⁱ § 43, 2]
- ē “ “ *they*²: gēs. [$\langle$ G^c ē § 31; weak G^c æ § 30, 1 N; ō]ⁱ § 43, 2; eġ]^{d. n} § 88]
- i “ “ *in*: bite “bite.” [$\langle$ G^c i § 27, 1; G^c e]^{nas.} § 26, 2; cf. also § 22 N⁴]
- ī “ “ *machine*: mīn. [$\langle$ G^c ī § 32, 1; i + nas.]^{s &c.} § 72; iġ]^{d. n} § 88; cf. also § 22 N⁴]
- o “ “ N.E. *stone* or Ger. *Gott*: god. [$\langle$ G^c o § 28, 1; G^c u § 29, 2]
- q “ “ *ou*: mōu “man.” [$\langle$ G^c a § 25, 4]
- ō “ “ *stone*³: gōd. [$\langle$ G^c ō § 33; G^c æ]^{nas.} § 30, 4; q + nas.]^{s &c.} § 72 & N¹]
- u “ “ *full*: wulf. [$\langle$ G^c u § 29, 1; G^c o]^{nas. &c.} § 28, 2, 3; w[io § 39, 1]
- ū “ “ *rule*: hūs “house.” [$\langle$ G^c ū § 34; u + nas.]^{s &c.} § 72]
- y “ “ Ger. *Müller*⁴: wyllen “woolen.” [$\langle$ u]ⁱ § 43, 3; cf. also § 22 N⁴]
- ȳ “ “ “ *grün*⁴: brȳd “bride.” [$\langle$ ū]ⁱ § 43, 3; yu]^{s &c.} § 72; yġ]^{d. n} § 88; cf. also § 22 N⁴]

For æ cf. § 43, 2, ft. nt. 2.

¹ When prolonged, as is usual in America.

² MⁿE. *ey* in *they*, like “long a” in *date* &c., is often a diphthong ending in ȳ, while OE. ē is the same vowel from beginning to end.

³ In strictness, not the same; for MⁿE. “long o” is often a diphthong ending in ũ, while OE. ō is a pure vowel.

⁴ Ger. *grün* and *Müller* are like E. *green* and *miller*, but the lips are nearly closed — or “rounded” — during the formation of the vowel.

2. DIPHTHONGS.

22. NOTE 1. — In the OE. diphthong the first element (whether long or short) is syllabic (§ 16, 3), or has the stress; but in some cases the stress shifted later to the second element. For *ġeāra* cf. § 40 N¹.

NOTE 2. — *ēa* and *ēo* are from older *au* and *eu* and their second element (whether written *a* or *o*) was an obscure unaccented vowel, a reduction of *u*. The *a* of *au* became *æ* (cf. § 25, 1(2)), and *ea* would better be written *ea*, as it sometimes was; but the *e* of *eo* is a true *e*.

ea = *æ'* + *a*¹: heard. [*< ǣ* § 41; *a*)^u § 44; pal. [*æ* § 40]

ēa = *ā'* + *a*¹: *hēafod*. [*< G^c au* § 36; *a* + *o* or *u* § 45; pal. [*ā* § 40]

eo = *e'* + *o*: *eorðe*. [*< ē* and *ī* § 41; *e*)^{u, o} and *i*)^{u, o} § 44; pal. [*o* or *u* § 40]

ēo = *ē'* + *o*: *ēōsan*. [*< G^c eu* § 37; pal. [*ō* § 40; *e* or *i* + back vl. § 45]

ie = *i'* + *e*: *ieldra*. [*< ea*)ⁱ or *eo*)ⁱ § 43, 4, 5; *eo*]pal. § 40, 2); *i*)^{u, o} § 44]

īe = *ī'* + *e*: *hīeran*. [*< ēa*)ⁱ or *ēo*)ⁱ § 43, 4, 5]

NOTE 3. — *eo* and *io* sometimes had different origins, but even in eWS. they were confounded, and *eo* supplanted *io*.

NOTE 4. — *ie* and *īe* were often written *i*, later *y*: from which Lloyd infers that *ie* assumed a sound intermediate to *i* and *e*; while *y*, on becoming unrounded (§ 17, 3), was reduced to the same sound.

For weak vowels cf. §§ 48–50.

¹ *æ'a* with prefixed *y* may be heard in the colloquial *ywæh* = "yes," and *ā'a* in the same word when drawled.

CHAPTER IV.

I. THE G^c AND THE WG. VOWEL SYSTEM.

23. Primitive Germanic had the following: —

Short vowels:	a	e	i	o	u
Long vowels:	ā	æ & ē	ī	ō	ū
Diphthongs:	ai				
	au	eu			

NOTE 1. — Some of the *i*'s were once *e*'s; for Indo-European *e* > G^c *i*: —

1) before nas. + cons. (cf. Lat. *offendimentum* with OE. *bindan*);

2) when *i* or *j* stood in the next syllable (so inf. *helpan* but 3 s. ind. *hilpð* (< orig. *hilpið*) § 43 N². (Perhaps this happened in WG. times.)

So, too, *ei* > *ii* > *ī* as in Latin (Gr. *δεικνυμι*, Lat. *dicō*, G^c *tīhan*, OE. *tēon*, § 46, 1 (3)).

NOTE 2. — Some *o*'s were once *u*'s; for older *u* > *o* if the next slb. had *a* (or *o*, N³), unless this was prevented by intervening nas. + cons., or *i*, *j* (by which the *u* was later mutated to *y* § 43, 3). Thus we have G^c *giholpan* (OE. *ġeholpen*) but *gibundan* (OE. *ġebunden*) and *huggian* (OE. *hycġan*).

NOTE 3. — IE. *o* > G^c *a* (Lat. *octo*, Goth. *ahtau*, OE. *eahta*, § 41, *eight*), but the unstressed *o* of endings remained *o* longer, in certain positions probably into primitive OE. times, § 49, 1.

24. The WG. system differed from the G^c only in having *ā* for older *æ* § 30, 1.

II. WHAT THE G^c VOWELS BECAME IN WS. §§ 25–50.

A. Chiefly of Stem Vowels. §§ 25–47.

1. GENERAL CHANGES. §§ 25–37.

a) Short Vowels. §§ 25–29.

25. 1) *a* > *æ* (1) in closed (§ 19, 1) slb^s: *dæg day*.

æ > *ea* § 41, and *ea*ⁱ > *ie* § 43, 4.

æġ^{d, n} > *ē* § 88.

- (2) sometimes in open slb^s if next slb. has *e*: *dæ-ges day's*; and in *ēa* < *au* § 22 N².
- (3) if next slb. had *i* or *j*, but *æ*)ⁱ > *e* § 43, 1. Cf. 2) end.
- 2) **a** remains *a* in open slb^s if next slb. has *a*, *o*, or *u* (or a vl. derived from one of these): *da-gas, da-gum, days*; *macīan* (*ī* < *ōj*) *make*.
a)^u > *ea* § 44.
- 3) **a** in weak slb^s (§ 19, 3): —
 (1) remains **a**: *ac but, herepað* } but *pæð*.
 (2) > **o**: of *of* Ger. *ab, herepoð* }
 So *pone* &c., and weak *on* but strong *on* (stressed adv.); weak *ot* was displaced by strong *æt*.
- 4) **a**] ^{nas.} > **q** § 38, 1 (1), **q**)ⁱ > **q** § 43, 1; **q** + nas.]^s &c. > **ō** § 72, **ō**)ⁱ > **ē** § 43, 2].
- 5) *a* + *o* or *u* > *ēa* § 45.
 For ^{pal.}[*a*, or rather *æ*, cf. § 40.
26. 1) **e** often remains **e**: *beran bear*.
 2) **e**] ^{nas.} > **i** § 38, 2).
 3) **e**] > **eo** § 41, *eo*)ⁱ > *ie* § 43, 5 } ^w[*eo* > *o* § 39, 2.
 4) **e**)^u > **eo** § 44
 5) *eġ*] ^{d, n} > **ē** § 88.
 6) *e* + back vl. > **ēo** § 45.
 For ^{pal.}[*e* cf. § 40.
27. 1) **i** often remains **i**: *witan know*.
 2) **i**] > **io** § 41, *io*)ⁱ > *ie* § 43, 5 } ^w[*io* > *u* § 39, 1.
 3) **i**)^u > **io** § 44
 4) *in*] ^s &c. (§ 72) and *iġ*] ^{d, n} (§ 88) > **ī**.
 5) *i* + back vl. > **īo** or **ēo** § 45.
i + *e* > **īe** § 45.
28. 1) **o** generally remains **o**: *god god, folc, word*.
 2) **o**, espec. next labials, often > **u**: *wulf, lufu*.
 3) **o**] ^{nas.} > **u** § 38, 3, **u**)ⁱ > **y** § 43, 3.
 4) **o**)ⁱ > **e** § 43, 2.

NOTE. — When (so espec. in foreign words) *o* was followed by *i*, and analogy did not prevent (§ 43, 2, ft. nt. 3 end), *o* > *u* and *u*)ⁱ > *y*: *Scottas Scyttise, box byxen*. Cf. Pogatscher §§ 223 ff.

29. 1) u often remains u: hund *dog*.
 2) u > o in or-: ordāl Ger. Urteil *judgment*.
 3) un]^{s &c.} > ū § 72; (ū)ⁱ > y § 43, 3.
 For pal. [u > eo cf. § 40.

b) Long Vowels. §§ 30-34.

30. I. WG. ā (< G^c æ): —

- 1) ā generally > æ: æfen 2(bend *evening*).

NOTE. — Weak (§ 19, 3) æ > ē: ƿElfrēd, hīrēd ƿeīrat.

- 2) ā]^w remains ā: tāwīan *prepare*, (ā)ⁱ > æ § 43, 1:
 æltæwe *complete*, cf. § 43, N¹.
 3) ā]^{back vl.} > ā or ē (cf. § 40 N¹): lāgon lāgon, lāe-
 nīan lāenīan *heal*, and)ⁱ > ē: lāēce *physician*.
 4) ā]^{nas.} > ō § 38, 1 (3), (ō)ⁱ > ē § 43, 2.
 5) ā]^{h + cons.} > ǣ > ea, and eah may > ēa: smēaliē
dainty, cf. § 91 & 2.

For pal. [æ cf. § 40.

II. G^c and WG. nasalized ā (< an]^h) > ō § 72 N¹, (ō)ⁱ > ē
 § 43, 2.

31. ē remains ē: hēr *here*.

32. 1) ī generally remains ī: mīn *mine*, wīf *wife*.

- 2) ī]^{h + cons.} > i (§ 46 II.) and then (§ 41, 3) eo: leoht,
 Ger. leicht *light*, so *betwīhnum > betweohnum
 (§ 91, & 2) > betwēonum *between*.

- 3) ī + back vl. > iō, ēo § 45, 1 (3).

33. 1) ō generally remains ō: gōd *good*, (ō)ⁱ > ē § 43, 2.

- 2) Final stressed ō > ū: cū *cow*, tū *two*; but weak tō.

34. ū remains ū: tūn *town*, (ū)ⁱ > y § 43, 3.

c) Diphthongs.

35. 1) ai > ā: stān ƿstein *stone*, (ā)ⁱ > ē § 43, 1.

- 2) ai]^w > ā rarely ō: snāw *snow*, ā or ō (< aiw) *ever*.

36. au > ēa (§ 22 and N^{1,2}): ēac auh eek, ēa)ⁱ > iē § 43, 4.

37. eu > ēo (§ 22 and N^{1,2}): dēop *deep*, ēo)ⁱ > iē § 43, 5.

2. CHIEF EFFECTS OF NEIGHBORING SOUNDS UPON STEM VOWELS. §§ 38-46.

a) Influence of Nasals ($\text{ɲ}^{\text{nas.}}$).

38. 1) G^c *a* acquired before nasals a sound like that of *o* in *on*, or of *u* in *ball*; as there was no letter to represent the new sound, it was in the MSS. sometimes spelled *a*, and sometimes *o*. Sweet first suggested the use of *q* for this "open *o*."

(1) $\text{a}^{\text{nas.}} > \text{q}$: *mōn*, *lōnd*, *cōmb*, *lōng*.

$\text{on}^{\text{spirant}} > \text{ō}$ § 72: *gōs* < *gōns* *Gāns* *goose*.

(2) Nasalized G^c $\text{ā}^{\text{h}} > \text{OE. } \text{ō}$ § 72 N: *þōhte* *ðachte* *thought*. Cf. § 46 II.

(3) G^c ē , WG. $\text{ā}^{\text{nas.}}$ also $> \text{ō}$ § 30, 4: *gedōn* *gethan* *done*.

2) $\text{e}^{\text{nas.}} > \text{i}$: *niman* *nēmen* *take*. Cf. § 24 N¹.

3) $\text{o}^{\text{nas.}} > \text{u}$: *ðunor* *Donner* *thunder*. 3

b) Influence of *w* (w^{f} and ɥ^{w}).

39. 1) $\text{w}^{\text{f}}\text{io}$ (< *i* § 27, 2, 3) usually $> \text{u}$: *wuduwe*, (less often) *weoduwe*, or *widuwe* *widow*.

2) $\text{w}^{\text{f}}\text{eo}$ (< *e* § 26, 3, 4) sometimes $> \text{o}$: *worold*, (more usually) *weorold* *Wælt* *world*.

3) a^{w} and e^{w} $> \text{au}$ and *eu*, and these (§§ 36, 37) $> \text{ēa}$ and ēo : *fēawe* *few*, *þēowas* *servants*.

4) $\text{i}^{\text{w}} > \text{iū} > \text{iō}$, but $\text{iō})^{\text{i}} > \text{iē}$: *nīewe* *new*.

Cf. also § 28, 2.

c) Influence of Palatals (pal^{f} and $\text{ɥ}^{\text{pal.}}$).

40. 1) Influence of Initial Palatal.

(a) For older *jæ*, *jō*, we usually find *gea*, *geo* (Ger. *Jahr* OE. *gēar* *year*, *ȝoð* *geoc* *yoke*) and *ju* is spelled both *iū* and *geo* (*iung*, *geong* *young*).

(b) So after the palatals (*ġ*, *ċ*, *scē*) we find not *æ*, *ē*, *e*, but *ea*, *ēa*, *iē*: *geaf* (for *gæf*), *gēafon* (for *gæfon*) *gave*, *giefan* (for *gefan*) *give*, *ceaf* (for *cæf*) *chaff*, *sceal* (for *scæl*) *shall*.

NOTE 1. — This spelling is differently interpreted by OE. scholars. In general we shall follow Sievers and Sweet, who are substantially agreed that the palatal cons. was succeeded by a glide (§ 16, 2) which with the following *vl.* formed a diphthong, this diphthong coming in time to have the stress on the first element, like other diph^s (§ 22). But the gen. pl. *gēara* (MⁿE. *yore*) = *jāra* (§ 30, 3) and has the spelling *ge* instead of *g* by analogy to *gēar* (MⁿE. *year*) < **jær* (§ 30, 1); “*gēara*” is therefore to be written *gēāra*, and “*gēar*” *jēar*.

NOTE 2. — Between the guttural *g* and *c*, and the back, or guttural, vowels *a*, *o*, *u*, as well as their *i*-mutations, no *i* or *e* occurs: *gōd good*, Cent *Kent*.

NOTE 3. — The *e* or *i* sometimes found between *sc* and back *vl^s* (*sc(e)acan shake*, *sc(e)ōh shoe*) is a glide (in eWS. still unstressed), §§ 16, 56, and shows that the *c* had become palatalized by the *s*, the first step toward the modern *sh*, §§ 11 d, 85, 3. This unstressed *e*, *i*, may be printed *e*, *i*.

2) Influence of Following Palatal (Sievers’ “Palatalumlaut”), cf. § 54.

In eWS. this is manifested only in *eo* ^{pal.} > *ie*: *reoht* > *riecht right*. Cf. § 41, 3 (*e* and *i*).

d) The Breakings (ǣ).

41. Before certain guttural sounds, the front *vl^s* *e*, *æ*, and *i* acquire a more guttural quality, and are said to be broken into two elements (cf. the pronunciation *wæʔul* for MⁿE. *well*).

1) Before *r* + consonant.

e > *eo*: *steorra* *ŷtern star*;

æ (< G^c *a*) > *ea* (really *æa* § 22 N²): *earm arm*;

i > *io*, and *io*)ⁱ > *ie*: *hierde* *ŷirte herdsman*.

2) Before *l* + consonant.

æ (< G^c *a*) generally > *ea*: *feallan fall*.

e > *eo* only before *l* + guttural *c* or *h*: *meolean melfen milk*, *eolh elk*.

3) Before *h* + cons. and before final *h*.

æ (< G^c *a*) > *ea*: *eahta ađt eight*.

$e > eo$: seox $\{e\}s$ *six*, but in most of the words the h later $>$ palatal and changed eo to ie : siex *six* § 40, 2.

$i > eo$ and this (§ 40, 2) $> ie$: Peohtas, Piehtas *the Picts*.

e) *The Mutations.*

42. Mutation (Ger. *Umlaut*) is the change produced in a stressed vl. by a following vl. or semi-vowel (§ 20, 1). If the mutating vl. is the high front vl., the vl. before it is assimilated to it (that is, if back, it $>$ front; if already front, it $>$ higher § 17, 2); if the mutating vl. is a back vl., only the latter part of the preceding vl. becomes assimilated, or guttural, and thus a diphthong is produced.

NOTE. — Mutation may affect an intervening unstressed or weakly stressed vl. before reaching the stressed vl.: $\bar{a}$ -buri *any time* $>$ $\bar{a}$ byri $>$ $\bar{a}$ byri $>$ $\bar{a}$ beri $>$ $\bar{a}$ bre $>$ $\bar{a}$ fre, *ever*.

(I.) *I-mutation* ($)^i$.

43. NOTE 1. — The i or j that caused $)^i$ appears as i only after r ; elsewhere it sometimes became e (§ 48), but it generally disappeared entirely (§ 66 N). The $\bar{o}j$ of the II. class of weak verbs $>$ $\bar{i}$ too late to cause $)^i$.

NOTE 2. — The earliest instance of $)^i$, namely $e > i$, occurred early in Ge times, and is not generally classed with the later mutations, cf. § 24 N¹ (2). The $)^i$ of $\bar{a}$, which is $\bar{e}$, may be ignored.

1) § 25 $a > \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bar{a}, \bar{æ} \end{array} \right\}^i > \bar{e}^1 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{herian } \textit{praise}, \text{ lęcġan } (< \textit{lagjan}) \\ \text{lay, men } \textit{men}. \end{array} \right\}$

$\bar{a})^i > \bar{æ}$: hāelan ($<$ hāljan $<$ hāl *whole*) *heal*.

2)² $o)^i > \bar{e}^1$: dohtor, but dat. sg. dęhter,³ *daughter*.

$\bar{o})^i > \bar{e}$: dēman ($<$ dōmjan $<$ dōm *judgment*) *judge*.

3) $u)^i > \bar{y}$: hynġran *to hunger* $<$ huigor³ *hunger*.

$\bar{u})^i > \bar{y}$: betġnan ($<$ betūnjan $<$ tūn *enclosure*) *enclose*.

¹ This e is well printed ϵ in grammars and dictionaries, to distinguish it from old e § 21. A few words have $\bar{a}$ for ϵ : fæstan *fasten*, sæc *strife*.

² $o)^i$ and $\bar{o})^i$ first $>$ $\bar{a}$ and $\bar{æ}$ (that is, $>$ front vl^s, § 17, but retained the rounding of the o , § 18), but like other front vl^s they early lost the rounding and $>$ e , $\bar{e}$. Cf. M. and S. Ger. *Getter* for *Götter*. Cf. § 14.

³ u usually $>$ o (§ 23 N²), but generally not when i or j followed; and so when mutation took place, it was u that was mutated and consequently

- 4) $ea)^i > ie$: eald *old* but ieldra *older*.
 $\bar{e}a)^i > \bar{ie}$: hēah *high* but hīehra *higher*.
 5) $eo)^i$ and $io)^i > ie$: weorpan *throw* but 3 sg. wierpð ($\delta < i\delta$).
 $\bar{e}o)^i$ and $\bar{i}o)^i > \bar{ie}$: lēoht *light* but līehtan *to light*.

NOTE. — For $ie > i$, y cf. § 22 N⁴.

(II.) U- and O-mutation ()^u,)^o).

44. Cf. § 42. WS. was less affected by this mutation than other dialects; and many forms that once showed it have become levelled under neighboring ones that did not have it. The high vl. *u* (§ 17, 2) was more effective than the mid vl. *o*, which did not affect the mid vl. *a* at all.)^u and)^o seldom operated across a palatal cons. (§ 85, 2) or two or more cons^s.

NOTE. — The *u* or *o* that caused mutation is not often preserved as such: *u* appears as *u* or *o*; *o* always as *a*; $\bar{o}$ in almost any form.

- 1) $a)^u > ea$: ealu *ale*. (Rare)
 $e)^u > eo$: heofon *heaven*. (Frequent)
 $i)^u > io, eo, ie$: lim *limb* pl. leomu, siendun *are*. (")
 2) $a)^o$. (Does not occur, cf. § 44)
 $e)^o > eo$: ceole *throat*. (Rare)
 $i)^o > io, eo$: teolian *to aim*. (Occasional)

f) Hiatus, Contraction, &c.

45. Two vl^s sometimes (particularly through the dropping out of an *h*, less often *w* or *j*) come to stand next each other, — that is, an hiatus is formed.

I. If the first of the two vl^s is unstressed, it becomes silent : be-ūtan > būtan > MⁿE. *but*.

II. If the first vl. is stressed —

1) The two form a diphthong, the second element being an obscure vl. spelled *a*, *o*, or *e*. (For unstressed *o* see § 23 N³.)

> *y*. (For $o^i > u$ and $u)^i > y$ cf. § 28 N.) But as $u > o$ in most of the forms of such a word as *dohtor*, it did so by analogy in the dat. too, though it was there followed by *i*.

- (1) $a + o$ or $u > \bar{e}a$: *sla(h)on > slēan *īđlāgen* *slay*.
 $\bar{a}$ (< G^c $\bar{e}$) + o or $u > \bar{e}a$: *nā(h)or > nēar *nearer*.
 (2) $e +$ back vl. > $\bar{e}o$: *seh(w)on > sēon *īehēn* *see*.
 $e + e > \bar{e}$: *te(h)en > tēn *īehēn* *ten*.
 (3) $\bar{i} +$ back vl. > $\bar{i}o$, $\bar{e}o$: *tī(h)on > tēon *censure*.
 $i + e > \bar{i}e$: *si(j)e > sīe *be*.

2) The second element is usually assimilated to the first and so disappears. (For unstressed o see § 24 N³.)

- (1) $\bar{o} +$ vl. > $\bar{o}$: *hō(h)on > hōn *hang*.
 (2) $\bar{u} +$ vl. are not changed or > $\bar{u}$: būan or būn *build*.
 (3) $\bar{y} +$ vl. > $\bar{y}$: *fȳir (< *fūir) > fȳr *fire*.
 (4) $\bar{a}$ (< G^c ai) + vl. > $\bar{a}$: *tai(h)a > tā *toe*.
 (5) $\bar{e}a +$ vl. > $\bar{e}a$: *hēa(h)es > hēas, gen. sg. of hēah *high*.
 (6) $\bar{e}o +$ vl. > $\bar{e}o$: *tēo(h)on > tēon *draw*.

3. CHANGES IN QUANTITY.

46. The quantities usually assigned to the OE. vl^s are what may be called historic quantities. That is, such changes in quantity as have taken place in OE. as distinguished from WG., are usually ignored. The reason for this is that it is very difficult to determine just when and where the changes took place.

(I.) Lengthening.

1) It is certain that final stressed vowels > long: pū *thou*, hwā *who*, sē *he* or *that*; but unstressed sē *the*, hē, the rel. þē, &c., similarly eal-swā *just so*, Mⁿ *also*, but weak (§ 93, 2) ealswa *as*.

2) There was a tendency to lengthen vl^s before a sonant cons. + a voiced stop (§ 20, 1: bīndan, wōrd, gōld, cōmb), but this seems not to have been true of all vl^s, nor universally the case before *nd* and *ng*. These lengthenings will not be noticed in this book.

(II.) Shortening.

A vl. before $h +$ cons. > short: pōhte > pohte, *wīh-bēod > *wihbeod > *weohbod (§ 32, 2; for $\bar{e}o > eo > o$ in bēod, cf. § 48 end) > wēofod (§ 91 & 2, § 76 N¹) *altar*.

4. VOWEL GRADATION.

47. 1) Gradation (Ger. *Ṙbfall*) is a difference of vowel due to a difference of accent (cf. § 19, 3) in Indo-European times in various forms of a word or in related words.

With Greek *φείδοι*, *φείδα*, *φείδαι* or Lat. *vidēre*, *vīsus*, compare OE. *wītan (*ī* < *ei*, § 23 N¹ end), wāt (*ā* < *ai*, § 35, < *oi*, § 23 N³), witon, wīs.

The difference of accent can no longer be seen, for in G^c times the stress came to be uniformly placed upon the first slb. of simple words (§ 94), and some of the older accented slb^s fell away, § 50.

2) Gradation plays in G^c its chief role in the verb, which shows six gradation series: —

1	<i>ī</i> (< <i>ei</i> § 24 N ²)	<i>ai</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>i</i>
2	<i>eu</i>	<i>au</i>	<i>u</i>	<i>u</i> (o)
3	<i>e</i> (<i>i</i>)	<i>a</i>	<i>u</i>	<i>u</i> (o)
4	<i>e</i> (<i>i</i>)	<i>a</i>	<i>æ</i>	<i>u</i> (o)
5	<i>e</i> (<i>i</i>)	<i>a</i>	<i>ā</i>	<i>e</i>
6	<i>a</i>	<i>ō</i>	<i>ō</i>	<i>a</i>

1-5 have the gradation *e/o* (G^c *e/a*, § 23 N³, or *i/a*, § 23 N¹), with the changes due to the following cons. (1 and 2, the semi-vowels *j* and *w*, or *i*, *u*; 3, sonorous cons. + cons.; 4, simple sonorous cons.; 5, nonsonorous cons.); 6 has the gradation *a/ā* (G^c *a/ō*).

Gradation continues in OE., but, in consequence of the many changes in the various vl^s (§§ 25 ff.), the subject appears more complicated, §§ 00 ff.

B. *The Vowels of Medial and Final Syllables.*a) *Quantity and Quality.*

48. The vowels in unstressed slb^s are all short, but *e* and *i* long kept their length under a slight accent in the endings *-ēre* (leornēre *learner*, § 97 b) and *-ian* of the II. weak conjugation. Old *æ* and *i* generally > *e*: *ārae* > *āre* g. d. a. sg. & n.

a. pl. of *ār honor*; *rīci* (§ 49 N¹) > *rīce realm*, *hilpis* > *hilpes(t) helpest*: but a slight stress generally preserved *i* in the derivative endings *-īþ*, *-ing*, *-isē*, cf. also § 43 N¹. For *i* + vl. : *j* + vl. cf. § 66 N. An *u* is often lowered to *o*, *o* unrounded to *a*, and this fronted to *e*. The vowel in a syllable that once had at least secondary stress but has lost it, is apt to become short and to be reduced to an obscure vowel usually written *e* or *o*; so *mis'lic'* > *mis'lic*, and *mis'licor* > *mis'lecor*; *hlāf'w(e)ard'* > *hlā'ford*, § 25, 3. Cf. also § 19, 3, and 95, 2.

b) *Gradation* (cf. § 47).

49. I. ANCIENT GRADATION. The IE. gradation series *e/o* appears in G^c as *i/o* or *a*, and (though all these vl^s may have > *e*) the gradation can still be recognized in OE. in such forms as *āgen/āgen own*, the first only showing)ⁱ, § 43.

II. RECENT GRADATION. Unstressed *o* and *u* > *e* if the next slb. contains a back vl., and similarly *ung* > *ing*: *rodor* *rodores/roderas heaven*; *sealfode/sealfedon anointed*; *leornung/leorninga learning*. But cf. §

c) *Apheresis, Syncope, Apocope* (cf. also § 45, I., II.).

50. NOTE 1. — The loss of a sound is termed apheresis, syncope, or apocope, according as it is initial, medial, or final.

NOTE 2. — Before disappearing, a vl. generally > the "mid-mixed," or "obscure," vl., usually written *e*; hence vl^s that are already mid disappear sooner than high vl^s. Cf. § 17.

1) Apheresis is rare in native words (*ræfnan* < *ar-æfnan perform*), but it frequently happened to foreign words adopted into G^c speech: *episcopus* > *biscop bishop*, *epistula* > *pistol letter*.

2) Syncope occurs according to the following important rule: —

After a long slb. (§ 19, 2) an originally short medial vl. is dropped unless it be guarded by more than one cons.: *dēofol*

dēofles < *dēofoles; but *rodor* *rodores*, as *rod-* is a short slb.; and *roccettan*, as *e* is guarded by the two cons^s *tt*.

NOTE 1. — Trisyllabic *f.* and *nt.* forms in *-u* do not syncopate: *īdelu* *idle*, *nīetenu* *cattle* (but *fem^s* in *-(i)ðu* syncopate regularly: *strengðu* *strength*); on the other hand, *micel* *large* regularly and *yfel* *evil* generally syncopate in spite of the shortness of the stem *vl.*: *micles*, *yfles*.

NOTE 2. — Analogy sometimes levels the forms that arise from this law; thus we find *dēofoles* (for *dēofles*) by analogy to *dēofol*, and adjectives with short stems, like *hwæt*, have (not *-ere* *-ene*, but) *-re* *-ne*, just as *gōd* has *gōdre* *gōdne*.

NOTE 3. — The *e* of the 2d and 3d pers. sg. ending (*-es(t)* *-eð*) of strong verbs and of weak verbs of the I. class is generally dropped in WS.

3) Apocope.

I.) The original final mid *vl^s* *a*, *o*, and *e*. fall away (§ 50 N²): Greek *ἀνά*, G^c *ana*, OE. *on*; **dōmoz* (§ 24 N³) > **dōmo* (§ 68 N) > *dōm* *judgment*; *voc.* *dōme* > *dōm*.

II.) The high *vl^s* *i* and *u* regularly fall away only after long slb^s (§ 19, 2): **wurmi* > *wyrm*, but *wini* > *wine*; *wordu* > *word*, while *hofu* retains *u*. Still *u* is dropped after a short medial slb. that follows a short stem *vl.*: **firinu* > *firen* *crime*.

NOTE 1. — But the *i* after long slb^s (§ 66 N) which became final by the apocope of a following *vl.* (§ 49, 1), did so too late to be affected by this law. It > *e*, § 48: *rīcio-* > *rīci* > *rīce* *realm*.

NOTE 2. — When, in consequence of apocope, the semi-vowel *w* or a sonorous cons. (§ 20, 1) becomes final, it becomes syllabic (§ 16, 3): *barw-* > *bearu* *forest*; *æcr* *field*, *fugl* *bird*, *tācn* *sign*, *māðm* *treasure*. Before a sonant cons., espec. before *r*, an obscure *vl.* (generally written *e* after palatal *vl^s*, *o* after guttural) is sometimes inserted: *æcer*, *fugol*, *tācen*, *māðam*.

CHAPTER V.

THE PRONUNCIATION OF THE WS. CONSONANTS. §§ 51-56.

51. *p, b, m, w; t, d, r, l* have their ordinary MⁿE. values: *bewit'an, dyppan, mære, lēt*. But in making *r*, the front of the tongue was turned back, and thus *r* acted like a guttural in "breaking" front vowels, § 41. Similarly, OE. *l*, like MⁿE. *l*, often had a guttural quality. For *k* and *q* cf. § 86, for *v* § 78, for *x* § 84.

52. The fricatives *f, s, þ* (or *ð*) were —

1) **Voiceless** (or as in MⁿE. for, so, *thick*, § 16), when *initial* or *final*, but medially only when *doubled* or *next a voiceless cons.*: forð *forth*, sċeaf *sheaf*, þæs *of the*; snoffa *snuffles*, sċeððan *injure*, cyssan *kiss*; ġepofsta *companion*, wasċan *wash*;

2) **Voiced** (or as in MⁿE. of, *rose, the*, § 16), when *between vowels* or *voiced cons.*: ofer *over*, sealfian *to salve*, furðor *further*, hāðen *heathen*, āriðsan *arise*.

53. *n* generally represents MⁿE. dental *n*, as in *nōn noon*; but before dental, palatal, and guttural cons., it too is dental (*bindan bind* and probably in *sengan* (= *sendzan*) *singe*, § 55, I. N. end), palatal (*Englisc English*), or guttural (*Ongeleyn the Angles*); for the two last, a letter like *ŋ* is sometimes used in grammars.

54. 1) *h* originally stood for the voiceless back open cons. heard in Ger. *aḥ*, and it still often had that value (*hēah high*, *hliehhan laugh*): before *t*, and to some extent before *h* and *s*, it palatalized, or became front (so *reoht* > *reoht* > *rieht*, § 40.2)), or as in Ger. *iḥ*.

NOTE. — The back and the front *ḥ*-sounds may be learned by whispering respectively *koo* and *key* and dwelling on the sound that follows the *k*.

2) Initially **h** early became the weak glottal cons. heard in MⁿE., as in *hund* *hound*. Initial **hl**, **hn**, **hr**, **hw** were either pronounced as *h + l*, *h + n*, &c. or as voiceless (§ 16) *l*, *n*, &c. (**hl**ædder *ladder*, **hn**utu *nut*, **hr**ōf *roof*, **hw**ær *where*); later this *h* generally became silent, but for **hw**, which is now written *wh*, one may hear *h + w*, voiceless *w*, or voiced *w*. For *hs* cf. § 90, 4 N.

55. **g** was —

1) A **shut cons.** (§ 20) I. after *n*,* II. when doubled.

I. After *n* : —

g was sounded as in MⁿE. *go*; ping *thing*, lōng, cýning *king*.

ġ (§ 85) was articulated farther toward the front of the mouth, like MⁿE. *g* in *give*: Ēnglisc *English*.

NOTE. — If a *vl.* followed, a glide intervened (as in the dialectic pronunciation *gyirl* for *girl*), which may have been a remnant of the original *i*, *j* (§ 85, 2); it was sometimes written *e*, but was often not indicated at all: sēng(e)an *singe*. It is very probable that this *ġj* had even in OE. times passed through *dj* to *dʒ*, spelled (*d*)*ge* in MⁿE., cf. *ġġ* below.

II. When doubled : —

gg was sounded like *g* in *go*, but was held, or prolonged: dogga *dog*, frogga *frog*.

ġġ was written **cg** and was pronounced like *je* in sēng(e)an (I. N above), that is, early *ġj*, later *dj* (cf. micġern *suet* < midl-ġearn) or *dʒ*: hrycġ *back*, ridge, brycġ *bridge*.

2) An **open cons.** (§ 20) elsewhere.

g was like North Ger. *g* in *Tag* (or like MⁿE. cons. *y* made far back in the mouth): gōd *good*, dagas *days*, ġenōg *enough*.

ġ (§ 85) was like MⁿE. cons. *y* (cf. also § 88 N): dæg *day*, ġear *year*, nigontiġ *ninety*, ġeliefan *believe*.

56. **c** was sounded like *c* in *cool*: cūman *come*, cýning *king*, Cēnt *Kent*, cwic *quick*, bucca *buck*. For *cs* cf. § 84 end.

ċ (§ 85) was articulated farther toward the front of the mouth, like *k* in *kill*, but was followed by a glide (as in the

* Perhaps *g* was a fricative after *n* in eWS, and only > a stop in IWS.

dialectic pronunciation of *sky*. § 16, 2 end), which may have been a remnant of the original *i, j* (§ 85, 2); before a back *vl.* this glide was sometimes written *e* or *i*, but often was not indicated at all: *ċild* *child*, *rīċe* *rich*, *tāċ(e)an* *teach*, *reċċ(e)an* *relate*. It is very probable that this *ċj* had even in OE. times passed through *tj* (*ort-ġeard* is early written *orċeard* *orchard*) to *tf*, spelled *(t)ch* in MⁿE. For *sċ* cf. § 85, 3.

CHAPTER VI.

GENERAL MATTERS AS TO G^c, WG., AND OE. CONSONANTS. §§ 57-61.

a) VERNER'S LAW.

57. We sometimes find in an OE. word an **r**, **d**, **g**, or **w** where a related word or another form of the same word would lead us to expect **s**, **ð**, or **h**: —

s — r : { *rīsan* *rise* : *rāran* *rear*,
 { *ċēosan* *choose* : *coren* *chosen* ;

ð — d : { *līðan* *travel* : *lāðan* *lead*,
 { *sēoðan* *seethe* : *soden* *sodden* ;

h — g : { *tīen* < **tīhen* *ten* : *twēntig* *twenty*,
 { *slēan* < **slāhon* *slay* : *slægen* *slain* ;

h(w) — w : *sēon* < **seh(w)on* *see* : *sāwon* *saw*.

NOTE. — This is what was still manifest in OE. of a G^c law according to which after a *slb.* not having the primary accent a voiceless fricative > voiced (for ex. *s* > *z*). The full applicability of the law cannot be made plain to beginners: from the first there were exceptions, and later the primitive accent (§ 94 ft. nt.) largely changed, and some of the fricatives underwent modification (for ex. *z* > *r*, and *ð* > *d*, while all voiceless fricatives > voiced between *vl*^s, § 52).

b) G^c **ft**, **ht**, **ss**.

58. Before **t** we find only the voiceless fricatives **f**, **h**, (**p**), though a related word or some other form of the same word might lead us to expect a stop or a voiced fricative; and **pt** > **ss**.

ft : giefan (f = v) *give* *geben* : gift *gift* Gift.

ht : magan *can* *mögen* : mealt *might* Macht.

ss : witan *know* : wisse *knew* and gewis(s) certain.

c) GEMINATION.

59. 1) Any cons. (ex. the semi-vowels *j* and *w*. § 16.2) may occur doubled, but *ġġ* (spelled *ċġ*) became differentiated into *ġj* later *dʒ*. § 55, II).

(a) G^c *Gemination* (mostly due to the assimilation of *n* to a preceding cons.): wulle *wool*, steorra, *star*, mōn(n) mōnnes *man*, swimman *swim*.

(b) WG. *Gemination* (due to *j*: every WG. single cons. ex. **r** was doubled by a following *j*, provided the cons. was immediately preceded by a short vl.; after long slbs. *j* fell away. § 66): Goth. saljan, OS. sēlljan, OE. sēllan *give*, so hliehhan *laugh*, smiððe *smithy*, lēċġ(e)an *lay*; but Goth. nasjan. OE. nērian (= nērian) *save*. For voiced *ʃf* we find the double stop **bb**: hebban *heave*. After long stems: *dōmjan > dēman *deem*, § 66 N.

(c) OE. *Gemination* (due to following *r* or *l*, but not regular): bit(t)or *bitter*. æp(p)el *apple*.

2) *The Simplification of Gemination*. Every gemination (ex. *ċġ*, which was no longer a real geminate, cf. 1 above) was simplified —

(a) When final: eal ealles; mōn mōnnes.

(b) Next another cons.: ealre ealles; cyste cyssan, sēnde < sēnd-de *sent*.

But etymological spellings (eall &c.) are not uncommon.

d) ASSIMILATION AND DISSIMILATION.

60. I. *Assimilation*. There is a tendency to make adjacent sounds similar or alike — to make them in the same way or in the same place: *biddeð · biddeth* > (§ 50, 2 N³) *biddð* > (§ 59, 2b) *bidð*, but as *ð* was voiceless (§ 52) it made *d* so, that is, changed it to *t*, *bitð*, then *ð* assimilated to *t* and we get *bitt*, which may > *bit* (§ 59, 2a). For *ds* > *ts*, *ts* > *ss*, &c. cf. § 80. For *sr* > *ss* and *lr* > *ll* cf. § 70.

II. *Dissimilation*. a) It seems difficult to sound two fricatives in succession. In OE. one of the two is generally stopped (§ 20), that is, *ð* > *t*, *h* > *c*, &c.: *fīfða* ‘fifth’ > *fīfta*, so *siexta*, but *fēorða* &c.; *hilpes þu* > *hilpestu* ‘helpest thou’; *siehs* > *siecs* or *sieæ* ‘six.’ More rarely one fricative was assimilated or lost: *blīðs* > *blīss* ‘bliss,’ *pīhsl* > *pīsl* ‘thill.’ Cf. § 83, 90, 4 N.

b) Foreign words were liable to dissimilation, thus *r* — *r* > *r* — *l*: Lat. *turtur* > OE. *turtur* and *turtle*, Lat. *purpura* > OE. *purpura* and *purple*.

e) METATHESIS.

61. Metathesis, or leaping, of sonorous cons^s is frequent, particularly: —

1) If thereby cons^s made with the same organs of speech are brought together: *hros* (𐌺𐌹𐍃𐍂) > OE. *hors* *horse* § 69.

2) If thereby the sonorous cons. is brought near a more sonorous sound (§ 16, 3) than the one it has stood next: *ādl* > *āld* § 67, *worsm* > *worms* *pns*, *tācn* > *tānc* *token* § 74.

The metathesis of other cons^s is rare, cf. § 84.

CHAPTER VII.

DETAILS AS TO OE. CONSONANTS. §§ 62-91.

A. *The Semi-vowels* (w, j, § 16, 2).

w (cf. §§ 14, 15 & N³, 16, 2, 51; also 39, 45).

62. *Initial w* is often dropped after *n(e)* 'not': næs næron < ne wæs &c. *was not*; but it rounds *i* to *y*, § 17, 3: nyllan < ne willan *will not*. *w*- often falls away through weakness of stress in the second part of a compound: hlāford < *hlāfword, § 48.

63. *Medial w* falls away before the high vl^s *u* and *i* (§§ 17, 2, 16, 2 about *w*): sē < saiwi *sea*; clēa < clāwu *claw* § 45, II, 1 (1). Cf. also tū *two* < *twū < *twō (§ 33, 2), so hū *how*. But *w* is at times restored through the influence of forms without *u* or *i*: sēw like gen. pl. sēwa < sēwja § 66 & N, &c.

64. *Final w* — 1) > vocalic, that is *u* (§ 16, 2): —

(1) After a cons.: barw(o)- > bearu *forest*.

(2) After a short vl. with which it forms a diphthong: *cnewo- > (§ 49) *cnew > *cneu > cnēo (§ 45, II, 1 (2)) *knee*.

2) Falls away entirely after long vl^s and diphthongs: ā or ō < aiw *ever* (§ 35, 2), snā *snow*.

But *w* may be restored by analogy to medial forms: thus snāw like gen. snāwes.

j (cf. §§ 14 end, 16, 2, 55, 1, I. N, II. and 2, 56; also 40, 43, 45, 59, 1 & b.).

65. There was no special character to represent the semi-vowel *j* (= *y* in *you*); it was written —

I.) *i* sometimes (1) in foreign words: Iūdēas *jews*; (2) initially before the high vl. *u*: iung *young*; and (3) often after *r*: nērian *save*, § 59, 1 b, hēries gen. of hēre *army*.

II.) **g** usually (§ 85): *geong* = *iung*, *neŕgan* = *neŕian*.

NOTE. — For *i* or *g* we sometimes find *ig* and before back vls even *ige* &c. (this may represent *ī* or *ij* and in some cases even *ī*, rather than *j*): *heŕiges*, *neŕig(e)an*.

66. **j** — 1) fell away after long closed slb^s *saljan* > (§ 59, 1 b) *sełłjan* > *sełłan give*.

NOTE. — As regards the interchange of *i* and *j*, — in G^e *i* + vl. stood after long vls, and *j* + vl. after short: *rīcio*- OE. *rīce* (§ 50 3 N¹) *realm* but *raejan* (OE. *reċē(e)an*, § 59, 1 b) *relate*. In OE. times the *i* too > *j* and fared as that did (for ex. **rīcies* > **rīcejes* > (§ 66) *rīces* gen. of *rīce*; **dōmian* > **dōmjān* > *dēman deem*); but, of course, it had not caused G^e gemination, § 59, 1 b.

2) was retained after **r** (*neŕian save*) and after a long open slb., § 19, (*eġegan call*).

B. The Sonorous Consonants (**r**, **l**; **m**, **n**; § 20).

1. THE LIQUIDS (**l**, **r**).

l (cf. §§ 14, 16, 3, 20, 51; also 41, 59, 1 c).

67. Metathesis (§ 61, 2) of **l** occasionally occurs: *sl* > *ls* in *brīdels* 'bridle' &c. (§ 98 *sla*); *spāll* later *spāld* 'spittle,' so *āld* and *āld* 'sickness.' For *r* > *l* cf. § 60, II b.

r (cf. §§ 14, 15 N¹, 16, 3, 20, 51; also 41, 57, 59, 1 c, 60 II b).

68. OE. **r** arises from —

I.) G^e **r**: *bringan bring*; *wer man*, Lat. *vir*.

II.) G^e **z**: *māra larger, more*, Goth. *maiza*; and cf. § 57 & N.

NOTE. — This *r* < *z* is only medial; for there was no G^e initial *z*, and the final *r* < *z* became silent: Goth. *hwas wer* OE. *hwā who*, Goth. *batis* OE. *bēt better*; Lat. *hortus*, Primitive G^e *gardoſ* (§ 50, 3, I.) OE. *geard yard*.

69. Metathesis (§ 61) of **r** is common, especially if thereby the *r* comes to stand next other cons^s made with the tip of the tongue: *hors horse* 9łoŕŕ: *beornan burn* 9rennen.

70. **r** is sometimes assimilated (§ 60, 1) to **l** and **s**: *sēlra* or *sēlla* *better*, *lāssa* *less*.

71. **r** is sometimes lost after a labial: *sprecan* and *specan* *speak* *sprechen*.

2. THE NASALS (**m**, **n**, **ŋ**).

72. Before the voiceless fricatives **f**, **s**, **þ**, a nasal early fell away and a preceding stressed vl. was lengthened: Goth. *fiuf* *fünf* OE. *fif* *five*, G^e *gans* > (§ 38, 1) OE. **gōns* > *gōs* *goose*, so *mūð* *mouth* *Mund*, **jugunþ* > *geognð* *youth* *Jugend*.

NOTE 1. — Before the voiceless fricative **h**, the nasal had fallen out in G^e times: **þanhte* > *þōhte* *ðachte* *thought*, cf. §§ 38, 1, 46, II.

NOTE 2. — After the working of the law stated in § 72, some nasals came to stand before fricatives in consequence of syncope &c. (*clān(i)sīan* *cleanse*), and some foreign words with *ns* &c. were brought in (*pinsīan* *weigh* < Lat. *pensāre*, § 38, 2).

m (cf. §§ 14, 15 N¹, 20, 51, 72; also 38).

73. For the metathesis of **m** cf. § 61, 2.

n (cf. 14, 15 N¹, 16, 3, 20, 53; also 38, 88).

74. 1) Metathesis (§ 61, 2) of **n** occasionally occurs in the case of final *en* and *gn*: *tāen* > *tāne* *token*, *pegn* > *peng* *thane*.

2) **n** is often dropped in the pl. of verbs if *wē*, *gē*, &c. follow (cf. § 82 N): *sohte gē* but *gē sohton* 'you sought.' Occasionally elsewhere: *cyning* > *cyn(i)g* 'king'; *onweġ* > *arweġ* 'away'; *nemnde* > *newde* 'called.'

C. Non-Sonorous Consonants, § 20.

(**p**, **b**, **f**, **v**; **t**, **d**, **þ**, **s**; **c**, **ċ**, **g**, **ġ**, **h**, **ĥ**)

1. LABIALS, §§ 20, 2, 28, 2.

(**p**, **b**, **f**, **v**)

p (cf. §§ 14, 16, 20, 51, 58).

75. Most G^e words beginning with **p** are words borrowed from other languages, § 11.

b (cf. §§ 14, 16, 20, 51, 58).

76. **b** generally represents the voiced labial stop (MⁿE *b* in *bib*), but this only occurs initially (*bindan bind*), after *m* (*limb*), and doubled (*habban hare*).

NOTE. 1. — Otherwise medially and finally we find **f** (often = *v*, § 52, 2) where we might expect **b**: *webb* (for *web* cf. § 59, 2 *a*) *wefan weave*, *wæf wove*. If foreign or initial *b* > medial, it, in time, > the voiced fricative **f**: Lat. *probāre* > OE. *prōfian prove, test*; *ā-byre any time* > *æfre ever*.

NOTE 2. — In the oldest texts **b** is used to represent the voiced labial fricative afterwards represented by **f**: *obaer = ofer over*.

f (cf. §§ 14, 52, 76 N^{1,2}; also 58, 72).

77. **f** represents the denti-labial fricative (§ 20), both voiced and voiceless, § 52. Geminated voiced **f** appears as **bb**, § 76 N¹; for **b** = **f** = **v** cf. § 76 N².

NOTE. — Voiced **f** sometimes > **m** by assimilation to **n**: *efne* > *emne even(ly)*.

u or **v**.

78. Lat. **v** (or **u**) appears as **w** in the oldest loan-words (§ 11); but when it had become denti-labial in late Latin and the Romance languages, it was spelled **f** (*fers verse*) in OE., less often **u** or **v** (*Dauid &c.*), but this spelling became more frequent in time (*uers verse*).

2. DENTALS, § 20, 2.
(**t**, **d**, **þ**, **s**)

t (cf. §§ 14, 20, 51, 58).

79. **t** is sometimes lost, esp. (as generally in MⁿE.) between a voiceless fricative and a sonorous cons. (*rieh(t)lice right*, *sōðfæs(t)nesse truth*) or another fricative (*Wes(t)seaxan*).

NOTE. — (1) As **sp** > **st** (§ 83) and the old spelling was often retained, we even find **sp** written for original **st**: *læsð = læst least*. (2) As **ċ** had > **tj** or **tf** (§ 56 end) we also find the spelling **c** for original **tj**: *orceard = ort-geard orchard*.

d (cf. §§ 14, 20, 51; also 57, 58, 88).

80. Next voiceless cons^s, **d** > (§ 60) voiceless, or **t**, though the old spelling is often retained: *bīndst* = *bīntst* < *bīndest* *bīndest*, *sēcnete* < *sēcne-de gare*, *blēalsian* > *blētsian* > *blēssian* *bless*. Weak *sīnd* (§§ 19, 3, 93 c) 'are' often > *sīnt*.

NOTE. — (1) For *ehte* < *eht-te* 'persecuted,' and *cyste* < *cyss-te* 'kissed,' cf. § 59, 2. (2) **d** often fell away between two **l**'s: *sīel(d)līe* 'strange.' (3) In weak slb^s **d** fell away after **n** and before another cons.: *on(d)fōn* 'receive.' (4) Before **l** an **n** is often exploded as a **d**: *endlufon* Goth. *ain-līf* 'eleven.'

p or **ǣ** (cf. §§ 14, 15 & N³, 52; also 57, 58, 72).

81. The **p** in old **lp** and, after a long vl., **pl**, having > voiced, was stopped and exploded, that is, > **d**: Goth. *gūlp* OE. *gold*; Goth. *nēpla* OE. *nēdl* *needle*.

82. **dp** > **tp** > **tt**. § 60: *ēađmōđ* *humble*, **ēađmēđpu* > *ēađmētto* *humility*; *ǣt* *pe* > *ǣtte* *that* conj.; and simplified, § 59, 2: *bīnt* < *bīntt* < *bīntð* < *bīndeð* *bindeth*.

NOTE. — **p** is often lost in verbs if *we*, *ge* follows (cf. § 74, 2): *bīnde ge* but *ge bīndað* 'you bind'; also in *lār(ð)eo* 'teacher,' &c.

83. **sp** > **st**, that is, one of the two open cons^s is stopped (§ 60, II): *hīlpes* *pū* > *hīlpestu* 'helpest thou,' the *t* in time being regarded as a part of the ending and remaining in *pū hīlpest*; cf. also § 79 N¹. *ps* > *ss*: *blīðs* > *blīss*.

s (cf. §§ 14, 20, 52; also 57, 58, 72, 83, 85, 3).

84. By metathesis (§ 61 end) **sc** sometimes > **cs**: *āscian* *ācsian* *ask*. Old **hs** in time > **cs** (§ 90, 4, N), and both this and other **cs**'s were very often written **x**: *siex* *sic*, *rīxian* *rule*, *āxian* *ask*.

3. PALATALS AND GUTTURALS, § 20, 2.

(c, ç, g, ġ, h, ĥ)

85. The original guttural cons^s (**c**, **g**, **h**) became fronted (§ 20, 2) under certain conditions, but the Mss. do not generally distinguish the gutturals from the palatals. It is more

or less customary in text books, esp. in the case of **c** and **g**, to place a dot, or some other mark, over the palatals.

1) **c**, **g** > **ċ**, **ġ** before the originally front vl^s (**æ** **ǣ**, **ea** **ēa**, **e** **ē**, **eo** **ēo**, **i** **ī**) and their *i*-mutations (**ē** **ǣ**, **ie** **īe**, —, **ie** **īe**, —), but remained guttural before cons^s and before the back vl^s (**a** **ǫ** **ā**, **o** **ō**, **u** **ū**) and their *i*-mutations (**ē** **ǣ**, **ē** **ē**, **y** **ȳ**), these last having become front vl^s too late to affect the preceding cons. For examples, see Vocabulary.

2) Medial **c**, **g** > **ċ**, **ġ** before original **i**, **j** (cf. § 43 N¹): **bqnci* > *bqncē* 'bench,' **bōcġōn* > *bēce* 'beech,' **drūgi* > *dryġe*, 'dry,' d. sg. *byrġ* < **burgi* but d. pl. *burgum*, Lat. *uncia* > *ynce* 'inch,' *rīce* 'powerful, rich' and acc. sg. *rīcne* < **rīcina*, similarly *ēcnes* 'eternity' as well as *ēce* 'eternal.'

NOTE 1.—**c** was palatal also in *īc* when final or before *e*: *īc* 'I,' *diē* 'ditch,' *-līce* '—like' (but *-licor*), and in the contracted derivatives in *-līc*: *ālē* 'each,' *hwelē* 'which,' *swelē* 'such.'

NOTE 2.—**g** was palatal also finally after the front vl^s of monosyll^s (*daġ* 'day,' but *dagas* 'days,' &c.) and in the suffix *-iġ* (*hālīġ* 'holy'); and medially after front vl^s, provided no back vl. followed (*daġes* 'days,' *lġade* 'laid,' *beġ(e)n* 'thane,' but *hāl(i)gu*).

3) **sc** > **sċ** not only according to 1) and 2) above, but also initially (§ 11 d), and finally if no back vl. preceded (*fiſc* *fish*); in the latter cases it was the **s** that fronted the **c**. Where there was no front vl. next a medial or final **sc**, palatalization was delayed or prevented.

In the process of time, **sċ** > *sċj* > *sċȳ* > *sċy* > *f*, or the M^eE. 'sh'; in OE. times it may have been at any one of the first stages. § 40 N³.

c (**k**, **q**; **x**) cf. §§ 14 end, 20, 56; also 58, 85.

86. **c** is the letter most commonly used for both the palatal and the guttural voiceless stop, § 56; rarely the guttural was indicated by **k**: *kyn(in)g* *kīng*. In this book, the guttural is spelled **c**, and the palatal **ċ**. For the sound *kw*, the usual spelling was **cw**; in the oldest texts also **cu**, less often **qu**, as in Lat.: *cwæð*, *cuæð*, *quæð* *says*. For **x** = *cs* cf. § 84. For **ċġ** cf. § 55, 1, 11.

g (cf. §§ 14 end, 20, 55; also 57, 58, 59, 85).

87. After long back *vl**, *lWS*. **h** < **g** occasionally appears even in *eWS*., that is, final *g* tended to > voiceless: *ġenōh* = *ġenōg* *enough*; and rarely after *r*. *l*: *burh* = *burg* *fortress*.

88. After front *vl**, **ġ** often disappears before **d**, **n**, but the preceding *vl*. > long: *mægden* > *māden* *maiden*, *brēgdan* > *brēdan* *pull*, *brīgdæl* > *brīdæl* *bridle*, *reġn* > *rēn* *rain*, on-, *tō-ġæġn* > *-ġæ̃n* > *-ġēan* (§ 40, 1 b) *against*.

NOTE. — This loss of **ġ** is one of the proofs of the fact that even in *eWS*. medial and final **ġ** tended to become vocalic, or **i**.

h (cf. §§ 14, 15, 54; also 41, 45, 46 II, 57, 58, 87).

x (§ 84 end).

89. Initial **h** and often medial **h** acquired the weak sound that **h** has in *MⁿE*. (§ 54, 2), and in certain cases it was assimilated to neighboring voiced sounds or disappeared entirely.

90. **h** was retained when —

1) *Initial* (§ 89): *habban* *have*, *bryġ* *ridge*.

NOTE. — Initial *h* is dropped when it comes to stand after another cons.: *n(e)habban* > *nabban* *have not*.

2) *Final*: *furh* *furrow*, *wōh* *bad*.

3) *Doubled*: *hliehhan* *laugh*.

4) Before a voiceless cons.: *wiht* *wight*, *polhte* *thought*, § 46 II.

NOTE. — For *hs* we often find *x*, and the fricative *h* in time > the back stop *c*, § 60 II.: *siehs*, *siex* *six*, *weaxan* *grow*. Rarely **h** fell away before *s*: *þīsl* < **þīsl* *Deidjfel* *thill*, *wæstm* *growth*: *weaxan*.

91. **h** disappeared, with frequent lengthening of the preceding *vl*. (or assimilated to a neighboring sonorous sound), when —

1) *Unstressed*:

(I) *fūrum* < *furhum* d. pl. of *furh* *furrow*, *befēolan* < *be-feolhan* *conceal*, *būan* < **būhon* *dwel*, *sēon* < **sehon* *see*, *ēa* < **ahwu* *water*, § 45.

NOTE.—In WS. the loss of an *h* is often prevented by the early syncope of the following vl. (§ 50, 2 N³, § 90, 4), so esp. in the 3d sg. of the verb: **sihð* > Anglian *sīð* but WS. *sihð* or *sichð* ‘sees,’ § 41, 3.

(II) Originally having secondary stress: *pūsund* < *pūs-hund* ‘thousand’; names like *Ælfere* < *Ælf-here*; -*or(r)ettan* or -*ōrettan* < -*ōret* ‘fight’ < **or-hāt* &c.; *efen(u)ehð* ‘level surface, field’ < *efen-hēah* ‘equally high’; *āġðer* < *āġhwæðer* ‘either’; *on-hatʹjan* > *onhætʹtan* > (by analogy to other verbs in unstressed -*ettan*, § 94 b N) *onʹhætʹtan* > *ōnʹhætʹtan* ‘hasten,’ but *onhātʹjan* > *onhætʹan* ‘excite.’

NOTE.—The *h* is often maintained or restored by the influence of the stressed simple word, espec. if that have the same vl., § 95 c: *efenhēah*, ‘evenly high,’ but *efen(u)ehð* ‘plain,’ *āʹwēr* and *āʹhwēr* ‘anywhere’ < *hwēr* ‘where.’

2) Between a vl. and a voiced cons., esp. if sonorous, § 16, 3: *smēaliċ* < **smeahliċ* (§ 41, 3) < **smahliċ* (§ 46, II.) < **smāhliċ* ‘dainty,’ so *nēawist* ‘nearness,’ *nēalāċan* ‘come near,’ &c. < **nāhwist* &c. (*nēah* ‘near’ has *ēa* by analogy to these and to *nēar* ‘nearer,’ *nēan* ‘from near,’ § 45, 1 (1)), *lēoma* ‘light’ < **lēohma*, cf. *lēoh* ‘light,’ *wēofod* ‘altar’ < *wīh-bēod* ‘sacred table,’ *wō(h)dōm* ‘false judgment’; *hēa(n)ne* acc. masc. of *hēah* ‘high,’ *nēa(r)ra* comp. of *nēah* ‘near.’ Occasional *hēahne* &c. are due to the influence of *hēah*, cf. note above.

CHAPTER VIII.

STRESS.

A. *Sentence-Stress.*

92. A sentence involves the connection of two ideas: the one first in the mind is the **psychological subject**; and the one that attaches itself to this is the **psychological predicate**. These may or may not correspond with the grammatical subject and the grammatical predicate. If a theft has been spoken of and some one says "*John* stole it," 'stole it' is the psychological subject, and 'John' the psychological predicate; if John is under discussion and some one says "*John* is a good fellow," 'John' is the psychological subject, 'a good fellow' the psychological predicate, and 'is' a connective.

The psychological predicate is uppermost in the mind of the speaker, is the idea he is anxious to put into the mind of the listener, is the 'emphatic' word or words, and is, naturally, stressed.

93. 1) As a result of this, little stress falls upon words that refer to an idea already in mind (the psychological subject), and upon words that denote an idea that is necessarily or naturally associated with another and, consequently, neither excites the mind of the speaker or needs to be called to the attention of the listener, but is expected by him. Here belong words denoting only the relation ideas bear to one another.

UNSTRESSED are, therefore:—

(a) Personal and relative pronouns (cf. e Note below).

(b) Weak demonstratives (including the article), which simply refer to objects in sight or under consideration (and do not contrast some with others).

NOTE. — Interrogative pronouns and adverbs, being but temporary symbols for unknown or undefined psychological predicates, are not stressed.

(c) Indefinite pronouns (mon, sum &c.).

(d) Most negatives and indefinite quantitative adj^s and adv^s.

(e) Conjun^s and prep^s, copulative and auxiliary verbs, and verbs of saying &c. followed by pæt &c. (cwæð þ, bæd þ).

NOTE. — Prepositions are stressed before personal (but not demon.) pronouns and after nouns and pronouns.

2) The tendency to stress the psy. pred.,¹ when adapted to the primitive word-order, gave to G^c speech a prevailingly trochaic rhythm² (using 'trochaic' in a broad sense): of two associated nouns (whether substantive or adjective) the first received the stronger stress — pæs **eorles** sunu 'the earl's son,' se **gōda** hierde 'the good shepherd,' **dēad** is Æschere 'Æschere is dead,' — while a noun³ was more heavily stressed than the verb with which it was used — **Bēowulf** maðelode, **bearn** Ecgþēowes 'Bēowulf spake, the son of Ecgþēow.' — and this generally even if the verb was for any reason placed first — āhlēop pā se **gōmela** 'then the old man leaped up,' but **gierede** hine Bēowulf 'Bēowulf prepared himself.' Like adj^s, adv^s that retain a definite meaning have the heavier stress when preceding an adj. or verb — **bī** standan 'to stand by.'

¹ It would not do to carry this matter into details here: suffice it to say that modifiers are degenerated psy. predicates, and that, when G^c speech was more synthetic, modifiers more regularly preceded the word modified.

² Through the operation of the same natural principle under changed conditions, — the more frequent use of proclitic words (prep^s, the articles, the auxiliary verbs, &c.) and the reduction or loss of final unstressed slb^s, — modern English has acquired a prevailingly iambic rhythm.

³ In ordinary speech (where speech-laws originate) nouns generally represent psy. predicates, for they are usually displaced by pronouns when psy. subjects are to be referred to.

B. *Word-Stress.*

1. CHIEF STRESS.

94. In OE. as in G^c

a) The stress of voice regularly fell upon the first¹ syllable of a word: SIMPLE, *fæder father*, *þone the*, *clæne cleanly*, *ġitsian ġitsung desire*, *ċeorfan cut*, *mōniġ many*; COMPOUND, *mōnslaga manslaughter*, *dōmsetl judgment seat*, *ārlēas dishonorable*, *bliðe-līce gladly*, *tōward toward*. Cf. 2.

b) But COMPOUND VERBS stress the second member: —

on-ġinnan	<i>begin</i> ,	but	on-ġin	<i>beginning</i> .
ā-cnāwan	<i>know</i> ,	"	or-cnāwe	<i>known</i> .
tō-dælan	<i>divide</i> ,	"	tō-dāl	<i>division</i> .
wið-sacan	<i>oppose</i> ,	"	wiðer-saca	<i>foe</i> .

NOTE.—Verbs with the derivative endings *-læcan*, *-ettan*, stress the first slb.: *āulæcan unite*, *cōhġettan cough*.

c) Nouns (substantive or adjective) having the verbal prefixes *be-*, *ġe-*, *for-* also came (in OE. as in WG. generally) to stress the second member: *be-hāt pledge*, *for-wyrd destruction*, *ġe-mæne common*, *ġe-sihð sight*.

NOTE.—The original prefix stress is still occasionally found (*forwyrd*, Crist 1615), and remained fixed in a few words, most of which early underwent contraction: *bi-smer disgrace*, **bi-hāt* > *bēot boast*.

d) Derivatives retain the stress of the primitive; thus, verbs derived from compound nouns keep the stress on the first member: *andswarian to answer* (< *andswaru an answer*, not < *and* + *swarian*); and nouns (for ex., participles used as adj^s or subs^s) keep the stress on the second member: *ā-līesend redeemer* and *ā-līesednes redemption* < *ā-līesan redeem*.

¹ In oldest G^c (§ 57 N), as in IE. speech, the accent was "free," that is, it was not bound by such a law; for ex., the word for 'father,' as in Greek, had the accent on the last slb. while that for 'mother' had it on the first, and the pret. pl. was not accented like the pret. sg.

e) Conglomerations generally retain the old sentence-stress (§§ 92, 93): *tō-dæg* *to-day*, *betwēonum* *between*, *for-pǣm-je* *because*.

2. SECONDARY STRESS.

95. a) The second element of compound words (other than verbs, § 94, b) usually had secondary stress. For examples, see Vocabulary.

b) But when a compound in time assumed a simple meaning, there was a tendency to treat it as a simple word and to neglect the secondary stress; the second member was then exposed to all the changes suffered by unstressed sylb^s (§§ 19, 3, 48-50, 91, I, II): *hlāf-weard* > *hlāford* *lord*, *ful-tēam* > *fultum* *protection*, *ā-hwār* > *āwēr* *anywhere*.

c) Nevertheless, if the meaning of the second element of the compound was not entirely lost, the mental association of the simple word with it would maintain or restore the secondary stress in the compound, specially if both elements were long slb^s; hence the rule a) above.

NOTE. — Of three more or less stressed slb^s, the middle one was apt to lose its stress: *gēhīer'sum'nes'* > *gēhīer'sumnes'* *obedience*. Before a third slb. ' ' is apt to > ' ' : *Norþ'hym'bron*, *hund'twelf'tig* = 120. It is generally not necessary to indicate secondary stress, unless it might be misplaced.

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